

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 34-67 and 70-79 are pending in this application. Claims 34 and 59 are independent and hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification and specifically at paragraph [0098]. No new matter has been introduced. Claim 70 has been amended. Claims 68 and 69 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b) §103(a)

Claims 34, 35, 37, 38, 40-46, 48, 53-54, 56, 58, 59, 61-69 and 72-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,479,206 to Ueno et al. (hereinafter, merely "Ueno"). Claims 39 and 60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ueno in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,640,671 to Takahashi et al. (hereinafter, merely "Takahashi"). Claims 36, 55 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ueno in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,061,064 to Reichlen

(hereinafter, merely “Reichlen”). Claims 47, 49, 70 and 71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ueno.

Claim 34, recites *inter alia*:

“An image pickup system comprising a commander, a video camera and a display device;
wherein said commander is shaped so as to be held by a user in one hand, said
commander includes:

command information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of command
information;

command information generating means for generating a plurality of kinds of
command information which correspond to a plurality of different operations performed
by a user, the generation of the command information being carried out on the basis of
said plurality of kinds of command information which are stored in said command
information storing means; and

transmitting means for transmitting said command information as transmitted
information;

wherein said video camera includes:

image pickup means for obtaining an image pickup signal by imaging an object;
receiving means for receiving said transmitted information...” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicant, Ueno relates to an imaging system and a system for
controlling an electronic camera.

Applicants submit that Ueno does not teach or suggest the above-identified
features of claim 34. Specifically, Ueno does not teach or suggest that the commander is shaped
so as to be held by a user in one hand, as recited in claim 34.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 34 is patentable.

Independent claim 59 is similar in scope and is patentable for similar reasons.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 34 and 59 are
patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

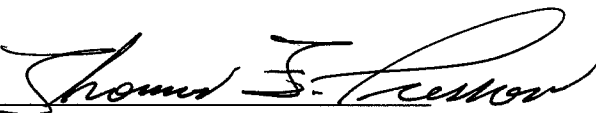
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 

Thomas F. Presson
Reg. No. 41,442
(212) 588-0800